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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/546,347	04/07/2000	Brian M. Perry	2766.1001-001	2092
21005	7590	10/21/2004	EXAMINER	
HAMILTON, BROOK, SMITH & REYNOLDS, P.C. 530 VIRGINIA ROAD P.O. BOX 9133 CONCORD, MA 01742-9133			AKERS, GEOFFREY R	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		3625		

DATE MAILED: 10/21/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/546,347	PERRY, BRIAN M.
Examiner	Art Unit	
Geoffrey Akers	3625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 August 2004.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-11 and 13-61 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-11,13-61 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. This action is issued in reply to applicant's Amendment filed 8/2/2004.
2. Claims 1,17,23,38,41-44,56, 59-60 were amended. New claim 61 was added. No claims were deleted.
3. Claims 1-11,13-61 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. Claims 1-11, 13-61 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Huang(US Pat. No: 5,953,707) in view of Muraoka(US Pat. No: 6,317,725).The rejections as cited and referenced in the Non-Final Office Action(Paper #15) are maintained.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments are not persuasive. Huang teaches a method of monitoring a supply chain activity(Abstract) for a plurality of sites(Fig 2)(Fig 1)(Fig 8)(Fig 46) on a network(Fig 46/406)(Fig 47) and extracting supply related data to be monitored(Fig 5) and collecting the data(col 9 line 64-col 11 line 15) and uploading this data to a user interface(Fig 3/40).Huang further teaches a DSS architecture to analyze supply chain efficiencies(col 4 line 45-col6 line 57), which may include other sites in the chain.Huang teaches a supply chain frame manager with scenarios(Fig 7) and demand points along the chain(col 6 lines 17-19) where the demand is monitored. Huang also teaches a repair supply chain with reentrant flows where data may retrieved at a point other than

at the user site(col 6 lines 27-35). Huang further teaches vendor management of replenishment(Fig 24) and capacity checking(Fig 61) which may be used for alert thresholding. Huang also teaches supply chain management at the component level for an OEM(Fig 4/54/52)(Fig 5)(Fig 6)(Fig 9).

Conclusion

6. THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.

7. Any questions concerning this communication should be addressed to the primary examiner of record, Dr. Geoffrey Akers, P.E., who can be reached between 6:30 AM and 5:00 PM Monday through Friday at 703-306-5844. If attempts to contact the primary examiner are unsuccessful, the primary examiner's superior, Mrs. Wynn Coggins, SPE, may be telephoned at (703)-308-1344.

The fax number for Formal or Official faxes and Draft or Informal faxes to Technology Center 3600 or this Art Unit is (703)-308-3687. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703)-308-1113.

October 14,2004



DR. GEOFFREY R. AKERS, P.E.
PRIMARY EXAMINER